

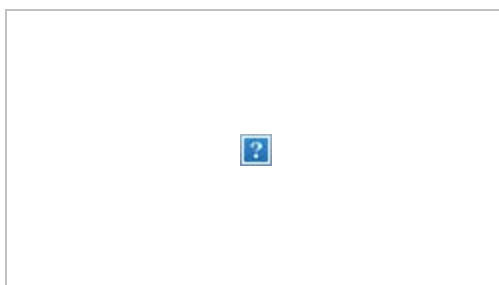
From: [Ropski, Carol](#)
To: [R6HarveyInfo](#)
Subject: Fw: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village [Hurricane Harvey]
Date: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42:08 PM

Carol Ropski
Emergency Response Branch 1, Section 2
Superfund Division
U. S. EPA Region 5
(312) 353-7647

From: Kerr, Michelle
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 11:03 AM
To: Coats, Janetta; Dunbar, Bill; Bryan, David; Burrus, Sheila; Collier, Deanna; Deyoe, Jeremy; Flores-Gregg, Paula; Ford, Jeremy; Houston, Pamela; Leos, Valmichael; Maynard, Katy; McKinney, Jason; Murray, Annah; Ofosu, Philip; Ohl, Matthew; Ortiz, Eduardo; Pollock, Devin; Rogers, Joan; Ropski, Carol; Sanders, LaTonya; Stevens, Jim; Stowell, Jacob; Swatts, Darriel; Tates, Samuel; Taylor, Maren; Urban, Trevor; Vaughn, Gloria; Villaneda-VanVloten, Isabel; Villarreal, Chris; Watson, Linda (R3); Wilson, Wenona; Zieba, Kyle
Subject: RE: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village [Hurricane Harvey]

Local news link on-topic from 6 days ago.

<http://abc13.com/little-cambodia-residents-plea-for-help-after-harvey/2409767/>



'Little Cambodia' residents plea for help after Harvey

abc13.com

In this part of rural Brazoria County, farmers and Cambodian refugees are asking when help will come. (KTRK)

From: Coats, Janetta
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2017 5:34 PM

To: Dunbar, Bill <dunbar.bill@epa.gov>; Bryan, David <Bryan.David@epa.gov>; Burrus, Sheila <burrus.sheila@epa.gov>; Collier, Deanna <Collier.Deanna@epa.gov>; Deyoe, Jeremy <deyoe.jeremy@epa.gov>; Flores-Gregg, Paula <flores.paula@epa.gov>; Ford, Jeremy <Ford.Jeremy@epa.gov>; Houston, Pamela <Houston.Pamela@epa.gov>; Kerr, Michelle <kerr.michelle@epa.gov>; Leos, Valmichael <Leos.Valmichael@epa.gov>; Maynard, Katy <Maynard.Katy@epa.gov>; McKinney, Jason <McKinney.Jason@epa.gov>; Murray, Annah <Murray.Annah@epa.gov>; Ofosu, Philip <Ofosu.Philip@epa.gov>; Ohl, Matthew <ohl.matthew@epa.gov>; Ortiz, Eduardo <Ortiz.Eduardo@epa.gov>; Pollock, Devin <Pollock.Devin@epa.gov>; Rogers, Joan <rogers.joan@epa.gov>; Ropski, Carol <ropski.carol@epa.gov>; Sanders, LaTonya <Sanders.Latonya@epa.gov>; Stevens, Jim <Stevens.Jim@epa.gov>; Stowell, Jacob <Stowell.Jacob@epa.gov>; Swatts, Darriel <Swatts.Darriel@epa.gov>; Tate, Samuel <Tate.Samuel@epa.gov>; Taylor, Maren <taylor.maren@epa.gov>; Urban, Trevor <Urban.Trevor@epa.gov>; Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>; Villaneda-VanVloten, Isabel <villaneda-vanvloten.isabel@epa.gov>; Villarreal, Chris <villarreal.chris@epa.gov>; Watson, Linda (R3) <Watson.Linda@epa.gov>; Wilson, Wenona <Wilson.Wenona@epa.gov>; Zieba, Kyle <Zieba.Kyle@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village

GOOD AFTERNOON,

BY NO MEANS SHOULD ANYONE PUT THEMSELVES IN ANY UNSAFE ENVIRONMENT.

PLEASE BE MINDFUL WHEN REACHING OUT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE SAFE IN YOUR TRAVELS IN PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE COUNTIES.

THANKS,

JANETTA!

From: Dunbar, Bill

Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2017 4:28 PM

To: Bryan, David <Bryan.David@epa.gov>; Burrus, Sheila <burrus.sheila@epa.gov>; Collier, Deanna <Collier.Deanna@epa.gov>; Deyoe, Jeremy <deyoe.jeremy@epa.gov>; Flores-Gregg, Paula <flores.paula@epa.gov>; Ford, Jeremy <Ford.Jeremy@epa.gov>; Houston, Pamela <Houston.Pamela@epa.gov>; Kerr, Michelle <kerr.michelle@epa.gov>; Leos, Valmichael <Leos.Valmichael@epa.gov>; Maynard, Katy <Maynard.Katy@epa.gov>; McKinney, Jason <McKinney.Jason@epa.gov>; Murray, Annah <Murray.Annah@epa.gov>; Ofosu, Philip <Ofosu.Philip@epa.gov>; Ohl, Matthew <ohl.matthew@epa.gov>; Ortiz, Eduardo <Ortiz.Eduardo@epa.gov>; Pollock, Devin <Pollock.Devin@epa.gov>; Rogers, Joan <rogers.joan@epa.gov>; Ropski, Carol <ropski.carol@epa.gov>; Sanders, LaTonya <Sanders.Latonya@epa.gov>; Stevens, Jim <Stevens.Jim@epa.gov>; Stowell, Jacob <Stowell.Jacob@epa.gov>; Swatts, Darriel <Swatts.Darriel@epa.gov>; Tate, Samuel <Tate.Samuel@epa.gov>; Taylor, Maren <taylor.maren@epa.gov>; Urban, Trevor

<Urban.Trevor@epa.gov>; Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>; Villaneda-VanVloten, Isabel <villaneda-vanvloten.isabel@epa.gov>; Villarreal, Chris <villarreal.chris@epa.gov>; Watson, Linda (R3) <Watson.Linda@epa.gov>; Wilson, Wenona <Wilson.Wenona@epa.gov>; Zieba, Kyle <Zieba.Kyle@epa.gov>

Cc: Coats, Janetta <coats.janetta@epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village

Gang - I received this from an SBA staffer with who Sheila and I were speaking at a town hall this afternoon. It happened in one of our counties (Brazoria) but thought you should be aware as well during your travels.

-Bill

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Reetz, David C." <David.Reetz@sba.gov>

Date: September 16, 2017 at 4:17:36 PM CDT

To: "dunbar.bill@epa.gov" <dunbar.bill@epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Wynne, Kevin R" <kevin.wynne@sba.gov>

Date: September 13, 2017 at 9:01:48 AM CDT

To: "Desgroux, Ximena D" <ximena.desgroux@sba.gov>, "Paavola, Lisa A" <lisa.paavola@sba.gov>

Cc: FOC W PIO <FOCWPIO@sba.gov>, "cd4667@aol.com" <cd4667@aol.com>

Subject: FW: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village

In and around Brazoria county. Please see below.

[Kevin](#)

From: Mancha, Patricia [<mailto:Patricia.Mancha@fema.dhs.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 6:57 AM

To: Deshong, Casey; Wynne, Kevin R

Subject: FW: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village

FYI – in case you hadn't heard.

From: Ayala, Juan

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 4:46 PM

To: Pierce, Bradly <bradly.pierce@fema.dhs.gov>
Cc: Mancha, Patricia <Patricia.Mancha@fema.dhs.gov>; Beasley, Philip <Philip.Beasley@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: FW: HOT Serious Incident Report--Cambodia Village

Brad,

I heard some chatter on this yesterday, but was swamped and didn't think to ask questions. Here is an email conversation with specifics that did reach Branch II leadership yesterday.

From: Benson, Christopher
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 10:32 AM
To: Lambrecht, Michael <Michael.Lambrecht@fema.dhs.gov>; Catchings, Cheryl R <Cheryl.Catchings@fema.dhs.gov>
Cc: Rice, Toby <Toby.Rice@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOT Serious Incident Report

I was there during that incident. I have made all of my CLs aware of the incident as well as the location of the village and that we will not be operating in or around the area until it can be done in a safe manner. Currently working on the incident report.

Chris Benson
FEMA DSA
DIV H DSA TFL DR-4332-TX
225-910-5087

From: "Wilson, Mark" <Mark.Wilson2@fema.dhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 7:22:56 AM
To: "Burroughs, Jason" <jason.burroughs@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: FW: HOT Serious Incident Report

Jason,

Please review and push to appropriate channel. This is a serious problem.

Mark A. Wilson
Branch II Director
DR-4332-TX
202-805-7176
mark.wilson2@fema.dhs.gov

From: Garrison, Alan
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 10:50 PM
To: Wilson, Mark <Mark.Wilson2@fema.dhs.gov>; Ford, John <john.ford@fema.dhs.gov>
Cc: Pigg, Larry <larry.pigg@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: HOT Serious Incident Report
Importance: High

Mark:

Per our discussion here is the follow up to the incident(s) today (Sep 11, 2017) with the Cambodian Village. We have encountered a serious incident in our attempt to engage with the Cambodian Village (see Maps). BR II, Div H, OPS TFL 1 (Tim Britt) and BR II, Div H, DSA TFL (Chris Benson) and several others from local jurisdiction in Brazoria County. A Pre-arranged a visit to conduct outreach to the insular Cambodian community turned into a tense and unsafe visit. During their visit several negative observations were made causing concern for FEMA personnel safety. Subsequently a report from DSA regarding an Inspector who was turned away on Sep 10, 2017 has validated our concerns.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- Outside (non-Resident) para-military group(s) have taken a stance in the Cambodian Community that they are protecting the village from FEMA.
- These groups turn outsiders away; specifically FEMA.
- The Cambodia elders who normally communicate with the locals would not talk to FEMA and appeared uneasy with FEMA and the Group(s) that is present. (see Cambodian Village Visit attached)
- Said group(s) appears to be armed. One account includes a person transferring a weapon from one member who was a little excited to another more calm member of their Group.
- On Sep 10 An inspector filed a report that he was turned away (see Report). They did not get physical, but it was clear they were not going to let him post notes or do inspections there. A couple of the reg #'s are 500689746 (Cindy Penn) (had appointment) and 500951650 – (Phaly Phasavath). (see FW: 4332 Cambodian Camp in Rosharon TX)

CONCERNS:

- The primary concern would be for the safety of any FEMA personnel who were to enter the properties within the community without being invited.

- FEMA Benefits are being interfered with for the applicants who have registered and are now being prevented from receiving them and/.or any FEMA follow up or actions
- Additional concern for any coercion or duress that the outside group is projecting on the Cambodian village. Are they preventing them from receiving their mail? Applying for their benefits? Leaving their village area? Note this is not a sovereign property but an area in the unincorporated portion of the county that operates as a community within the county.

FUTURE ACTIONS:

- The County is developing a strategy to bring the community members to meet at the City Hall.
- A list of needed items was given to the county representative and the county is going to attempt to locate the needed material.
- DIVS H (Tim Britt) will meet with Murphy Rankin Tuesday morning and establish a follow up meeting for Thursday or Friday to determine a way forward.
- DIVS H (Tim Britt) will identify how USPS is delivered.
- **NO FEMA PERSONNEL SHOULD APPROACH THE CAMBODIAN VILLAGE WITHOUT COORDINATION**

FOLLOW UP WITH JFO

- Share with appropriate staff to keep FEMA out until re-engagement strategy is coordinated.
- Share with appropriate Federal LEO
- Waiting on one additional report (DSA). - We feel that we have validated situation and can send that later.

Alan L. Garrison

ADIVS

Operations Branch II, Div H
DR-4332 – TX - Galveston, TX

alan.garrison@fema.dhs.gov

(573) 462-6943